

NEWS RELEASE

Eric Melgren, U.S. Attorney

Contact: Kena Rice

(316) 269-6481

Headquarters 1200 Epic Center 301 N. Main Wichita, Kansas 67202 (316)269-6481 FAX (316)269-6484 **Topeka Office** 444 Quincy Topeka, Kansas 66683

Kansas City Office 500 State Avenue Suite 360 Kansas City, Kansas 66101

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PLAINVILLE, KANSAS, MAN SENTENCED ON GUN CHARGES

WICHITA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **David Hamilton**, 33, Plainville, Kansas, was sentenced on January 26, 2004, by U.S. District Judge Wesley E. Brown to 13 years and 5 months in federal prison, without parole, to be followed by 5 years of supervised release.

Melgren said that Hamilton entered a guilty plea on October 28, 2003, to one count of possessing a sawed off shotgun in relation to a drug trafficking crime and one count of being a felon in possession of a pistol.

Melgren said that Hamilton admitted at his plea that on May 20, 2003, law enforcement officers executed a search warrant at his residence on South Meridian in Plainville, Kansas, and found a number of small baggies containing approximately 12.47 grams (approximately .43 ounce) of methamphetamine that Hamilton intended to sell. Officers also found numerous items used to manufacture methamphetamine including glassware, rubber tubing, latex gloves, glass tubing, baggies, scales, and chemicals. The officers found five firearms, including a sawed off shotgun, which Hamilton admitted he used as protection in relation to his distribution of methamphetamine. Hamilton further admitted that he was convicted of a felony on February 24, 2003, in Trego County, Kansas.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Plainville Police Department, the North Central Kansas Drug Task Force and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in this investigation and Assistant U.S. Attorney Matt Treaster in this prosecution.